

## COSPAR STATEMENT AT MEXICO CITY MINISTERIAL

COSPAR thanks the Mexico City Ministerial for the opportunity to briefly describe a substantial contribution toward GEO's objectives, future collaboration, and ongoing and planned initiatives.

COSPAR, the Committee on Space Research, was established in 1958. COSPAR has actively participated in GEO since 2007 when COSPAR joined GEO. COSPAR promotes scientific research in space, with emphasis on the exchange of results, information and opinions, and provides a forum, open to all, for scientific discussions.

The President of COSPAR, Professor Lennard Fisk, and the Executive Director, Dr. Jean-Louis Fellous, are unable to be with you because, at this very moment, they are convening the COSPAR Symposium on Water and Life in the Universe in Foz do Iguacu in Brazil, where the GEO-IX Plenary took place.

The natural variability of Earth's atmosphere, oceans, land and ice surfaces shaped the evolution of life in general and human systems in particular. The impact of that variability continues today. In turn, human activities continue to change the environment in many ways. Increased understanding of global integrated Earth system science will lead to enhanced predictions of our future environment to save lives and property and improved stewardship of our planet.

Science, especially compelling science, is the core principle that drives COSPAR. COSPAR, with its mandate to cover Earth's atmosphere, oceans, land and ice surfaces, offered at the GEO-IX Plenary in Foz do Iguacu to prepare a scientific roadmap to guide the building and evolution of GEOSS. COSPAR is pleased to announce that the COSPAR Roadmap on Observations and Integrated Earth System Science in the GEO 2016-2025 Era is nearly completed and a final draft version is available. The Roadmap fosters multidisciplinary scientific research making combined use of modeling and GEOSS observations; addresses the functioning, predictability and long-term evolution of the global integrated Earth system; discusses how GEOSS supports global integrated Earth system science; and identifies observing system enhancements needed to improve prediction of variability on up to decadal times, and the modeling of longer-term change.

COSPAR hopes that the Roadmap will be consulted frequently during the 2016 transition year and beyond. COSPAR will use all possible means to publicize the Roadmap and promote its conclusions and recommendations among space agencies, decision-makers and the broad international scientific community.

In conclusion, Professor Fisk, Dr. Fellous and I invite you to participate in the next COSPAR Scientific Assembly on 30 July to 7 August 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey.